

**NATIONAL COMING
OUT DAY - OCT. 11**

**BROUGHT TO YOU BY
PENNSYLVANIA
DIVERSITY
NETWORK**

VALLEY-GAY-PRESS

**SINCE 1998 - THE LEHIGH VALLEY'S
GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL & TRANSGENDER
COMMUNITY OPINION & NEWS PAPER**

VOL. 8 NO. 8

OCTOBER 2005



THEATRE OUTLET & GLBT COMMUNITY MEMBERS AMONG WINNERS OF ALLENTOWN'S HUMAN RELATIONS AWARDS

Read more about the Anti-discrimination Ordinance victory on page 6.

Read more about the AHRC awards on page 7.



Dan Anders, of Pepper Hamilton LLP, leader of the Allentown Human Relations Ordinance Legal Defense Team



Sarah Kersh of the Crime Victims Council - Bullying Prevention Program Team



Sarah Niebler, Lehigh University Community Fellow at the Muhlenberg Polling Inst. - Bullying Prevention Program Team

****VICTORY** ALLENTOWN CITY WINS COURT BATTLE ANTI-DISCRIMINATION ORDINANCE STAYS IN EFFECT!!**

RACHEL THOMPSON ART SHOW TO BENEFIT HAVEN

Read about it on page 8.

GLBT Infoline
Greater Lehigh Valley

610-HELP-123

(610-435-7123)

MCCLV OFFERS COUNTY PRESCRIPTION CARDS

Metropolitan Community Church will be a Distribution Center for the Lehigh County Prescription Discount Card for Lehigh County residents. There is no enrollment process. There are no age or health requirements, no claim forms, no waiting periods, and the card is free. It brings savings between 10% and 50% on prescriptions. The card cannot be used in conjunction with other plans. Contact MCCLV at 610-709-8800, for further information.

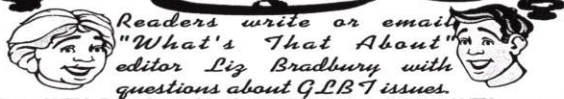
GAYDAR FUNDRAISER RAISES OVER \$1100 FOR PA DIVERSITY NETWORK

PA Diversity thanks Steve Libby, Shawr Mazatta, Jan Alsasser & the Gaydar crew and the owners of American Hairlines Dave & Drew. And thanks to event sponsors Bud Light Diamondz, Dave Soska of the Allentown Goose City Entertainment, DJ Grand Pooh Buttz performers Storm and Alexis, and Evan the bartender. You people are the greatest!

CEDAR CREST COLLEGE QUEER AWARENESS WEEKS - OCT 15-28

Read about it on page 3.

What's That About?



Dear WTA Readers, Update: A few months ago WTA was asked if Civil Unions from Vermont would also be recognized in Connecticut. Connecticut passed same-sex Civil Union rights earlier this year. Connecticut declared this month that Vermont Civil Unions would be recognized in CT. Domestic Partner rights may also be recognized.

Dear WTA, I've seen that one of the recommended donation sites for hurricane relief is a Pat Robertson (anti-GLBT) charity. Where can we donate and be sure the money won't go to anti-gay agencies? **Signed, Wanting to Help**

Dear Helpful, The (pro-GLBT) Gill Foundation has promised to match any contribution up to \$250 (to a total of a million dollars) for direct aid to hurricane victims (<http://www.gillfoundation.org/>). Also Ellen DeGeneres has gotten Warner Bros., the producers of her show, to match contributions up to a total of \$500,000 (ellen.warnerbros.com/showinfo/hurricane). The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force also has a web site with recommended places to donate (www.thetaskforce.org/aboutus/HurricaneRelief).

Dear WTA, I read this bizarre report that said Allentown was 12th in the list of the 25 most conservative US cities? How could that be? **Signed, Confused**

Dear Confused, It was a mistake. The Berkeley, Calif.-based Bay Area Center For Voting Research examined the voting patterns of 237 American cities with populations over 100,000, and based its results on the percentage of voters choosing a liberal or conservative candidate in the 2004 presidential election. But the survey group reversed Allentown's numbers, totally skewing the list. They said Allentown went 33% for Kerry and 67% for Bush. WRONG!!! Allentown went 67% for Kerry. This was a really foolish error because all the other conservative cities were in places like Texas and Arizona. Allentown was the only North Eastern city on the list. You'd think that glaring difference would make them check their figures. They were sent emails pointing out their error.

VALLEY GAY PRESS

WEB SITE: WWW.PADIVERSITY.ORG
Publisher, Managing Editor -- Liz Bradbury
Publisher, Editor -- Patricia Sullivan

Columnists: Liz Bradbury, Patricia Sullivan, Denise McKelvey Ruby Zebu, Donnie and Earl Snyder, Stephen Libby, Scott Laubner

Valley Gay Press - The Lehigh Valley's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgender Community Opinion and Newspaper (VGP) operates as part of Pennsylvania Diversity Network VGP owns the copyright to its articles and columns. No part may be reproduced without written permission of the Publisher. VGP offers free copies for direct mail and hand-out distribution to Lehigh Valley area not-for-profit organizations and businesses. The opinions expressed by columnists are their own and should not be attributed to this paper.

Organizations that have VGPs for hand-out distribution:

Metropolitan Community Church of the Lehigh Valley
1901 S. 12th Street, Allentown 610-709-8800
PFLAG Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays
Allentown, 610.967.5219 <http://www.eastern-papflag.org/>
Pride House at Muhlenberg College, Allentown
19th Street Theater -- 527 N 19th St. Allentown
Unitarian Universalist Church of the Lehigh Valley (UUCLV)
-- 424 Center St., Bethlehem
Haven GLBTA Youth Group at UUCLV

To Contact Valley Gay Press:

Mail to: PO Box 22902 Lehigh Valley, PA 18002 Phone: 610-432-5449
Email: info@padiversity.org To arrange for your group or organization send \$25 for an individual membership or \$35 for a family membership to receive copies to distribute, contact VGP. Some restrictions apply.

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RAGS TO RICHES TAKE THE FIRST STEP

by Denise McKelvey

Dear Denise, Between the baby's expenses and health insurance for my partner and me (we both work in healthcare, where domestic partner benefits are not available) and the increase in gas prices, we are feeling a financial pinch. We're currently considering a new auto. How do you feel about the hybrids? **Signed, Squeezed**

Dear Squeezed, Trading in your old car solely for the purpose of getting a car with better gas mileage rarely pays off. Paying an exorbitant amount for a hybrid, for instance, to save money on gas, often requires years to truly recoup the savings, especially when some of these cars are going for over-sticker prices. But, if you're jonesing for a hot hybrid, like the Toyota Prius at 60 mpg, remember the car that might be on a long waiting list could be located more easily on the internet out of your buying area.

Edmunds.com, a good online resource for auto reviews, buying tips and new and used car deals, has compiled a list of the 10 most fuel-efficient cars currently sold in the US, based on the Environmental Protection Agency's miles-per-gallon ratings, listed as city/highway ratio. The Top 10 list is (most ratings are with manual transmission): 1. Honda Insight-61/66; 2. Toyota Prius-60/51; 3. Honda Civic Hybrid-45/51; 4. Volkswagen Golf TDI-38/46, Volkswagen Jetta TDI-38/46, Volkswagen New Beetle TDI-38/46; 5. Honda Civic EX-36/44; 6. Toyota Echo-35/42; 7. Toyota Corolla-32/4; 8.. Scion xA-32/37; 9. Honda Accord Hybrid-30/37, Pontiac Vibe-30/36, Toyota Matrix-30/36, Scion xB-31/35; 10. Dodge Neon-29/36, Toyota Celica GT-29/36, Volkswagen New Beetle TDI-38/46.

You may have noticed many cars on the list are not among the priciest hybrids, yet get excellent gas mileage. These cars will not be selling for inflated prices, which means you will save on the purchase and gasoline at the same time.

Changing Tax Laws for New Hybrid Buyers- Right now, and through Dec.31, tax law provides new hybrid buyers with up to \$2,000 in tax deductions. However, if you wait until January 1, a new law will replace the deductions with tax credits that can reach \$3,400. Tax experts are quick to point out that credits are significantly more valuable than deductions. Why? Because deductions merely reduce the amount of income that is subject to tax, but a credit reduces the tax owed on a dollar-for-dollar basis. In real dollars this means a \$2,000 credit saves \$2,000.

Yet there's more to the equation. By using the Department of Energy's web site and steering to the Hybrid Electric Vehicle (HEV) Cost Calculator Tool, the numbers show a relatively small savings incurred by using a typical hybrid vehicle -- generally between \$300-\$600 a year, when calculated over a 7-year period. However, the resale value may be higher for the hybrid. And environmentally, by driving the Honda Civic Hybrid for seven years you'd save planet Earth about 16,178 lbs. of carbon dioxide emissions, which is in itself a worthy reason for choosing a hybrid. Denise McKelvey, CFS is a financial advisor for Ameriprise Financial located at 5100 Tilghman Street Suite 170 Allentown PA 18104. Please mail or email questions to denise.m.mckelvey@aexp.com. Information contained in this article may not be suitable for your specific financial situation.

Businesses that have VGPs for hand-out distribution:

Diamondz Nightclub -- 1913 W. Broad St., Bethlehem
Stonewall Bar -- 28-30 N. 10th St., Allentown
Candida's -- 247 N. 12th St., Allentown
Hava Java Coffee Shop -- N. 19th St. Allentown
Fountainhead Book & Gifts -- 641 Penn Ave., West Reading

- Monthly Direct Mail Distribution

Currently the Pennsylvania Gay and Lesbian Alliance (PA-GALA) mails the Valley Gay Press to its members. To become a member of PA-GALA, send \$25 for an individual membership or \$35 for a family membership to PA-GALA PO Box 20825 Lehigh Valley, PA 18002

CHECK OUT PA DIVERSITY'S WEBSITE AT WWW.PADIVERSITY.ORG

HOT NEWS

HAVEN YOUTH GROUP

HAVEN MEETINGS : every Wednesday from 7:00 - 9:00PM at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 424 Center Street, Bethlehem. Meetings are open to GLBTAQ youth ages 14 - 20. For information: havenyouthgroup@hotmail.com or 610-868-2153. HAVEN needs facilitators. Facilitator training provided.

PFLAG NEWS

PFLAG - Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians & Gays, www.eastern-pa-pflag.org. e-mail: info@eastern-pa-pflag.org. Meeting locations: LV - 1st Tues., 1st Pres. Church, Allentown. 610-967-5219. Reading - 3rd Tues., Unitarian Universalist Church, Reading. 610-967-5219. Monroe - 1st Wed., Eastern Monroe Public Library, Stroudsburg. 570-620-1234. Meeting Dates: Allentown - October 4, November 1, December 6; Monroe - October 5, November 2, December 7; Reading - October 18, November 15, December 20.

GLORA

GLORA - The Gay and Lesbian Organization of Reading and Allentown is up and running again with new leaders and new contact information and a web site. GLORA organizes social events for GLBT singles and couples in the Lehigh Valley. To contact GLORA and for event information go to <http://glora.1colony.com> or email Glora@dejazzed.com or write GLORA PO Box 414 Fredrick PA 19435-0414.

ROBERTA MEEK SINGS

PA Diversity Boardmember Roberta Meek will be singing favorite jazz standards, accompanied by guitarist Dave Smith, at Fox Optical for the First Friday celebration, October 7, 8-10pm at 28 E. Broad St., Bethlehem. The performance is free.

GLOSS EVENTS

The Gay & Lesbian Organized Sports Society (GLOSS) holds weekly get togethers for volleyball, tennis and racquetball. On a monthly basis, GLOSS offers bowling, pinocle, and game night. Bowling is held the second Friday of the month at the Rose Bowl in Allentown at 8:45PM. Pinocle is held the first Saturday of the month and game night is usually on the third Saturday. Both pinocle and game night are held at members' homes. Contact GLOSS by email: Info@gloss.org; web: www.gloss.org; or US Mail: PO Box 21862, Lehigh Valley, PA 18002.

CEDAR CREST

From October 15 - 28, Cedar Crest College will be hosting Queer Awareness Weeks. The weeks start with the True Colours Dance to honor Coming Out Day. The dance starts at 8 pm in the Tompkins College Center Dining Hall and is \$3 for CCC students with ID, \$4 for other students (including high school students) with school ID, and \$5 for a general admission.

The week will also include several workshops: How to Support the GLBT Community and Be An Ally on 10/20 at noon in the Tompkins College Center; Legal Rights and Legislation Effecting The GLBT Population on 10/24 at noon in the TCC; Same-Sex Marriage: The Latest Information on 10/27 at noon in the TCC will be led by the Pennsylvania Diversity Network. Other workshops on Safe Sex for All Genders, and Basic Queer Terminology led by students. There will also be a production of the Rocky Horror Picture Show on Saturday night, Oct. 22, in the Alumnae Hall Auditorium. All presentations are free! For more information: Missy Sturtevant at mmsturte@cedarcrest.edu.

PENNSYLVANIA DIVERSITY NETWORK

...bringing you The Valley Gay Press, the GLBT Infoline and www.padiversity.org's GLBT friendly resource list.

The GLBT Infoline receives many calls with requests for information about social events, referrals for legal needs and other service oriented issues.

PA Diversity Network will be doing no less than 10 community GLBT issue presentations in October, all over Pennsylvania.

The PA Diversity website has 200 resource listings and more than 145 are PA Diversity verified GLBT friendly. The website is updated on the 1st and 15th of each month. You may list a business by clicking 'Resources' and going to the bottom of the page to get to the appropriate form.

PA Diversity Network has Rainbow Ribbon Magnets for sale for your car. (\$3 each or 2 for \$5) The money supports PDN programs. PDN also has flashing rainbow pens for sale at \$10 each. Half of the profits go to Katrina relief.

And don't forget to mark your calendars for PA Diversity Network's Art/Craft Show, November 17-19. Just in time for holiday shopping.

LVGMC NEWS

The Lehigh Valley Gay Men's Chorus is participating in Macy's Community Shopping Day on November 1. Purchase a Community Shopping Day Admission Ticket from any member of the Lehigh Valley Gay Men's Chorus for \$10 by October 25, 2005 and save 15% to 20% off most purchases on November 1st. The best part is that the entire \$10 will go to the chorus. Contact any member of the LVGMC for information or to purchase an Admission Ticket. 610-366-3320.

The members of LVGMC are preparing for their "Seasonal Sensations" concert on November 19. Visit the chorus website www.lvgmc.org for concert information. The chorus seeks concert sponsors, program advertisers and volunteers to assist during the concert. Call 610-366-2205 for more information.

HATE CRIMES BILL PASSES HOUSE

The US House of Representatives added language to legislation to extend existing federal hate crimes laws that already cover crimes motivated by race, color, national origin and religion to include crimes based on actual or perceived gender, sexual orientation, disability and gender identity. The vote on the amendment was 223 to 199. The full bill later passed the House overwhelmingly. The legislation must now be passed by the Senate.

HAVEN HALLOWEEN PARTY

HAVEN is having a Halloween party on Saturday Oct. 15 & invites all GLBTA youth between 14-20 to come in costume or however they feel most comfortable. Haven seeks donations of food to serve at this event, fabulous spooky decor to spice things up, discounted DJ referrals, and volunteers. To help, contact HAVEN.

STEVIE Z

Join Stevie Z the piano man at the Stonewall Moose Lounge, 9 to midnight, Oct: Fridays, 14 & 28; Nov: Fridays, 4 & 18; Dec: Fridays, 2 & 23. The 23rd will be the annual Christmas Carol sing-along. Tips in Oct/Nov/Dec will be shared with an organization for hurricane victim relief. More dates appear at: steviezpa.tripod.com.

MCC HALLOWEEN TRIBUTE

On Friday, 7 pm, October 28, MCCLV's Short Stories & Coffee will present: A Halloween Tribute to noted gay director James Whale. Short readings will be about Whale's colorful life and two movies will showcase his unique style and his circle of gay actors - "The Old Dark House" and "Bride of Frankenstein." James Whale was the subject of the book, "Father of Frankenstein" and its film adaptation, "Gods and Monsters."

CALENDAR

Am Haskalah, Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation, Services at Allentown JCC at 22nd and Tilghman Streets, <http://www.jrf.org/amhaskpa.610-435-3775>
ACCO-A Chorus Celebrating Women, AIDS Outreach-112 N. 5th St. Allentown, PA 610.435.8424

AIDSWALK-see FACT

ASC-AIDS Service Center 610.974.8701

All Together Now - Supportive Ecumenical Christians, 610-398-1286, bluemountain@entermail.net

BGMSG - Berk's County Gay Men's Social Group -- singles and couples social events berksgmsg@aol.com

BMA- Bucks/Montgomery Alliance for Gay and Lesbian Concerns 215-529-0360

CIVIC and 19th St. Theater, 527 N 19th St, 610-432-8943, www.civictheater.com

CUUPS -- Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans every 4th Sunday at noon at the UUCLV. uucv_cuups@yahoo.com

Enigma Players-- qacres@prolog.net

equal@agere- email: equal@agere.com

FACT- Fighting AIDS Continuously Together 610.820.5519

Gaydar Magazine-- www.gaydar.com

GLEE at Air Products

GLISN - at Dun & Bradstreet, vagrathollow.com/GLISN/

GLORA- Gay and Lesbian Organization of Reading and Allentown www.glora.1colony.com, glora@dejazzed.com

GLOSS - Gay and Lesbian Organized Sports Society, www.gloss.org Info@gloss.org

GLOW-at PPL

HAVEN GLBT Youth Group of the UUCLV - call: 610-868-2153, email: havenyouthgroup@hotmail.com

HMFF-Hope Ministry Family Fellowship, Sundays, 11 am, Open Space Gallery, 931 Hamilton St. 610-791-0716

Integrity- Lesbian & Gay Episcopalians Family & Friends meets quarterly. 610-758-8642 gamba.guy@verizon.net

infoline - Greater LV GLBT Infoline: 610-HELP123 (435-7123) M-F 6pm -9pm Office: 610-432-5449 info@padiversity.org

INTERWEAVE -- GLBTAI group at the UUCLV. 3rd Sundays.. Interweave_UUCLV@yahoo.com

LVGMC -Lehigh Valley Gay Men's Chorus, email: info@lvmgc.org, www.lvmgc.org

610-366-3320, rehearsals: Wesley United Methodist Church, 2540 Center St., Bethlehem

Lehigh Valley Transsexual Coalition- 610-610-997-0976, humanrights4all@aol.com, 610-814-0530 JamesHalleman@aol.com

MCC - Metropolitan Community Church, Merchants Square Mall, 1901 S. 12th Street, Allentown Services: 10:30am & 6pm, mcclehighvalley@yahoo.com, <http://www.mcciv.org> 610-709-8800

NCC- Northampton Community College GLB Student Union, 610.861.5541(1386) or 882-2531

19th St & Civic Theatre - 610.432.8943

Out There- Students at CedarCrest College

PA-Diversity Network- 610-432-5449 www.padiversity.org PO Box 22902 Lehigh Valley, PA 18002

PA-GALA - Pennsylvania Gay And Lesbian Alliance, (Candidate Guide, & Political Lobbying) P.O.Box 20825 Lehigh Valley 18002 610-863-0227 www.pa-gala.org

PARENTS- GLBT parent's group: 610-262-2519

PFLAG - LV Parents Families & Friends of Lesbians and Gays, 1st Tues. 1st Pres. Church Allentown 610.967.5219 www.eastern-pa-pflag.org

OCTOBER 2005 NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY - OCT. 11

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 GLOSS WDIY
Rache's painting show to benefit Haven - all month.						
2 HMFF UUCLV WDIY LVGMC AIDS MCC Walk	3 LVGMC Am Haskalah RAA	4 LVGMC GLOSS LV PFLAG Am Haskalah	5 HAVEN Am Haskalah M PFLAG	6 GLOSS PA-GALA RAA Am Haskalah	7 Roberta Sings	8 WDIY GLOSS
9 UUCLV MCC Anniv HMFF WDIY	10 LVGMC	11 GLOSS National Coming Out Day LVGMC	12 HAVEN	13 RAA GLOSS Am Haskalah Pride mtg	14 Stevie Z Interweave	15 True WDIY Colours Dance HAVEN Party GLOSS
16 MCC UUCLV	17 RAA LVGMC Cedar Crest workshop	18 GLOSS LVGMC R PFLAG AHRC Banquet	19 HAVEN	20 GLOSS Pride mtg Cedar Crest workshop RAA	21	22 WDIY GLOSS Cedar Crest Rocky Horror
23 HMFF UUCLV WDIY MCC WDIY Potluck	24 LVGMC Cedar Crest workshop RAA	25 LVGMC Carson on Oprah GLOSS	26 HAVEN	27 RAA GLOSS Pride mtg	28 James Whaley Tribute Stevie Z Pride Rocky Horror	29 WDIY GLOSS

NOVEMBER 2005 Election Day Nov 8...VOTE!!!!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 GLOSS LVGMC shopping day LV PFLAG	2 M PFLAG HAVEN	3 GLOSS RAA PA-GALA	4 Stevie Z	5 GLOSS WDIY MCC 10,000 villages
6 HMFF UUCLV WDIY All Together Now MCC 10,000 villages	7 LVGMC RAA	8 GLOSS LVGMC Election Day	9 HAVEN	10 GLOSS RAA	11	12 GLOSS WDIY
13 MCC WDIY HMFF UUCLV	14 RAA LVGMC	15 GLOSS LVGMC R PFLAG	16 HAVEN	17 RAA GLOSS	18 Stevie Z PDN Art Show	19 WDIY GLOSS LVGMC Concert
20 HMFF MCC WDIY PDN Art Show	21 LVGMC RAA	22 GLOSS LVGMC	23 HAVEN	24 GLOSS RAA	25 Pride Casino Night	26 WDIY GLOSS
27 WDIY CUUPS HMFF MCC Potluck	28 LVGMC RAA	29 GLOSS LVGMC	30 HAVEN			

DECEMBER 2005

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 PA-GALA RAA GLOSS	2 Stevie Z	3 WDIY GLOSS
4 HMFF MCC GLOSS HMFF UUCLV	5 LVGMC RAA	6 GLOSS LVGMC LV PFLAG	7 HAVEN M PFLAG	8 GLOSS RAA	9	10 GLOSS WDIY
11 HMFF GLOSS WDIY MCC UUCLV	12 LVGMC RAA	13 GLOSS LVGMC	14 HAVEN	15 GLOSS RAA	16	17 GLOSS WDIY
18 GLOSS MCC HMFF WDIY UUCLV	19 LVGMC RAA	20 GLOSS LVGMC R PFLAG	21 HAVEN	22 RAA GLOSS	23 Stevie Z	24 WDIY WDIY GLOSS MCC
25 HMFF MCC UUCLV	26 LVGMC RAA	27 GLOSS LVGMC	28 HAVEN	29 RAA GLOSS	30	31

Pride - Pride of the Greater Lehigh Valley, (Pride Festival) 610.770.6200, email: <info@prideglv.org>, <www.prideglv.org>
QuEST - Student group at Lafayette College
Quakers - Lehigh Valley Friends Meeting - Route 512 1/2 mi. North of Rte 22 Bethlehem, PA. Worship at 9:30 am. (610)691-3411.
RAA - Rainbow AA meetings, Mon. & Thurs. At 16th and Turner.
Ren - Renaissance Transgendered Assoc., Meets at MCCLV renlv.org
Rainbow Space - Muhlenberg College Organization 610.821.3244
Reading P-FLAG 610-967-5219
Safe Space - At Lehigh U. 610.758.5973
Temple Sophia, Interfaith Sanctuary 117 E Ridge St., Coaldale 18218 570-657-6447 Pastor: Rt. Rev. Tom Cormier
T.O. - Theatre Outlet, Allentown, 610-820-9270.
Unity - 26 N. 3rd St. Emmaus, 767-4417
UUCLV - Unitarian Universalist Church LV, 424 Center St., Bethlehem, 18018 610.866.7652.
VGP - Valley Gay Press, 610.432.5449, VGP@padiversity.org VGP PO Box 22902 Lehigh Valley PA 18002 www.padiversity.org
Wachovia-GALEA - Gay and Lesbian Employee Association. Contact GALEA@Wachovia.com
WDIY - WDIY - 88.1 fm 93.9 fm Sat. 6:00 pm This Way Out, Assorted Women 6:30 pm. 610-694-8100.88.

SPECIAL UPCOMING EVENTS:

LVGMC REHEARSALS - TUESDAYS
LV PFLAG - 1ST TUESDAYS
READING - PFLAG 3RD TUES
GLOSS VOLLEYBALL - TUES/THURS
GLOSS RACQUETBALL - TUES & SATS
GLBT YOUTH GROUP
HAVEN - WEDNESDAYS
MONROE PFLAG - 1ST WEDS
PA-GALA - 1ST THURSDAYS
POETRY CIRCLE - FRIDAYS
GLOSS PINOCCHIO - 1ST SATS
MCC GAMES NIGHTS - 1ST & 3RD SATS
GLOSS GAMES NIGHTS - 3RD SATS
AL-ANON - SATS
INTERWEAVE - 3RD SUNDAYS
GLOSS TENNIS - SUNDAYS
GLOSS BOWLING - 2ND FRI

OCT 2 - 31 ART SHOW
OCT 2 - LV AIDS WALK & PET BLESSING
OCT 3, 4, 5, 6, 13 - TEMPLE AM HASKALAH
OCT 4 - LV-PFLAG
OCT 5 - MONROE PFLAG
OCT 7 - ROBERTA WEEK
OCT 9 - MCCLV 21ST ANNIV
OCT 13 - PRIDE OPEN HOUSE
OCT 14 - STEVEZ@ MOOSE LOUNGE
OCT 14 - 16 INTERWEAVE RETREAT
OCT 15-28 - CEDAR CREST QUEER AWARENESS WEEK
OCT 15 TRUE COLOURS DANCE
OCT 15 - HAVEN PARTY
OCT 17 - CC WKSH SAME-SEX MARRIAGE
OCT 18 AHRC AWARDS BANQUET
OCT 18 - READING PFLAG
OCT 20 - CC WKSH BEING AN ALLY
OCT 20 - PRIDE MEETING
OCT 22 - ROCKY HORROR@CEDAR CREST
OCT 24 - WKSHP LEGAL RIGHTS
OCT 27 - PRIDE MEETING
OCT 28 - JAMES WHALE TRIBUTE
OCT 28 - STEVEZ@ MOOSE LOUNGE
OCT 28 - PRIDE ROCKY HORROR
NOV 1 - LVGMC SHOPPING DAY
NOV 1 - LV-PFLAG
NOV 2 - MONROE PFLAG
NOV 4 - STEVEZ@ MOOSE LOUNGE
NOV 5 - 6, 10,000 VILLAGES @ MCCLV
NOV 6 - ALL TOGETHER THE NOW
NOV 10 - READING PFLAG
NOV 18 - STEVEZ@ MOOSE LOUNGE
NOV 18, 19, 20 PDN ART/RAFT SALE
NOV 19 - LVGMC CONCERT
NOV 25 - PRIDE CASINO NGT
DEC 1 - STEVEZ@ MOOSE LOUNGE
DEC 6 - LV-PFLAG
DEC 7 - MONROE PFLAG
DEC 20 - READING PFLAG
DEC 23 - STEVEZ@ MOOSE LOUNGE
FEB 10, 11 - MCCLV FREEDOM TO MARRY

INFORMATION SUBJECT TO CHANGE!
TO POST INFO: 610-432-5449
VGP@PADIVERSITY.ORG

PRIDE GLV

New Pride Office -- Pride of the Greater Lehigh Valley announces a one-year lease has been signed for an office at the Hamilton Business Center, 1101 W. Hamilton Street, Allentown. Tour the new space, Thursday, October 13 at 6:30pm.

Pride in the Park 2006 -- will be held on Saturday, June 17. The Parade down Hamilton St. begins 11 am. The festival at Cedar Beach Park will begin at noon. Opening Ceremonies at 1 PM. Pride seeks PTP volunteers. Planing meeting: Thursday, October 27, 7pm at the office.

The Rainbow Scholarship On OPRAH -- After receiving a recent \$5,000 donation courtesy of Carson Kressley from American Eagle, Kressley, a Valley queer native and founding partner of the scholarship will appear on the OPRAH WINFREY SHOW with plans to talk about it. Don't miss the show, Tuesday, October 25. Rainbow Scholarship Committee volunteers are needed. Next meeting: October 20, 7pm.

Rocky Horror to Launch 'Rainbow Reels' -- Pride is planning two "Rocky Horror Picture Show" screenings for Friday, Oct. 28, 9pm & Midnight. The 'Rainbow Reels' Film Series was created after the Queer Film Festival was tabled for 2005. Check Pride's website for complete information.

Pride GLV To Launch New, Robust Web Site -- Featuring an extensive community resource directory, photo gallery, community meetings and events calendar, and more.

Launch date: October 11, www.prideglv.org.
Pride GLV Hosts First Annual Casino Night -- Friday, Nov. 25, 7 - 11 pm at 1101 Hamilton Street, 5th Floor in Allentown (Former Petro's Restaurant). Pride Royalty will showcase Las Vegas style lounge acts. Professional dealers. Event attendees can win chances at great prizes. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres & adult beverages featuring Three Olives Vodka, beer and soda. A one year Pride membership, (a \$15 value) and the newly designed 2005-2006 discount Pride Pass included with each ticket. Tickets - \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. The event is sponsored by J.P. MacGrady's and J.P. O'Malley's Pubs, American Hairlines Salon & Day Spa (Allentown & Bethlehem locations) and PopMart. Advance ticket sales available at local gay bars/clubs (visit www.prideglv.org for details) or phone 610-770-6200. Event attendees must be at least 21 years of age. An outdoor terrace for smoking will be available.

MCC NEWS

At its annual banquet MCCLV gave the The Rainbow Excellence Award to HAVEN and The Lehigh Valley Gay Men's Chorus. The We Will Never Forget Award went to FACT and the Business Leadership Award went to the Hartford Financial Services Group.

MCCLV will be a Distribution Center for the Lehigh County Prescription Discount Cards.

MCCLV's dates for the 2006 National Freedom to Marry Day events: Friday, February 10, will be the Courthouse Action and Saturday, February 11 at 7 p.m. will be the NFTMD Ceremony and Dance.

RANTS & RAVES BY STEPHEN T. LIBBY

OR THE STL TOP 20 LIST OF MOVIE MIS-QUOTES;

1. Frankly, My Dear, I Do Give A Damn... just not about you.
2. Toto, I've a Feeling We're Not in Kansas Any More...so, first stop, the pound. Second stop, the Tart Shoppe. Third stop, Trump Tower. I'm sick to death of this braids and ruby slipper crap.
3. May the Force Be With You... and also with you.
4. Play With it Again, Sam.
5. I'll Be Back...to deny gay marriage rights in California.
6. Fasten Your Seat Belts...it's going to be a long three years.
7. But ya are, Cheney. Ya are... only the Vice President.
8. No More Wire Hangers Ever!!! ...Now be a good girl, Christina, and fetch mommy a Stoli neat, four fingers.
9. All Gay Men Are Named Either Mark, Rick or Steve...or Tom, Dick, Jim, John, Mike, Pedro, Juan or Tito.
10. Damn the Torpedoes...and screw the missiles, too.
11. Love is a Many Splendored Thing...but, only if you have a pre-nup.
12. If You Build it They Will Come...and if you build it tight, they will come quicker.
13. A Woman Pretending To Be A Man Pretending To Be A Woman...or as we like to call it, Thursday night at the Stonewall.
14. If You Can Dodge a Wrench, You Can Dodge a Ball and if you can dodge an idiot, you can dodge the draft.
15. The Calla Lilies Are In Bloom Again...what the hell is a calla lily? Flowers? Then can't you just say flowers?!!
16. Are You Trying to Seduce Me, Mrs. Robinson? ...No, I always wear this outfit around the house. Duh!
17. Don't Go Near The Water... at least not near that little warm yellow spot over there.
18. Stella!!!! What's for dinner? Yo want me to pick up something at Mickey D's? ...and what the f*#k happened to my shirt? Jeesh! I Coulda Been a contenda...oops wrong movie.
19. Okay, Mr. DeMille, I'm Ready For My Close-up. ...Oh, honey, no, you're not, really. Listen to me, here's the mirror. A close-up is the one thing you're not ready for.
20. I Heard He's A Bisexual - He Likes Boys and Men... not that there's anything wrong with that.

PLANET

Parenthood

by Earl and Donnie Snyder
donnieearlucas@msn.com

COMING OUT AGAIN

National Coming Out Day is October 11th. Our family is already out to friends, family and co-workers. Recently, we took a bolder step.

Donnie, Lucas, and I were featured as a GLBT family in a photo in the local newspaper. I was even working at the hospital the day that particular newspaper was delivered to each patient. The photo made it up to the front desk of the unit and was placed along with all the other pictures of workers' families and children.

It was a scary experience, but worth it. I really wondered if I would have a problem with any of my patients, and if I did, how would I handle it? My co-workers all know of my family and to my knowledge, are accepting. I had some concerns about the reaction I might have with the physicians. To my surprise, I only had positive responses to the newspaper picture and article.

Coming out has helped enrich our lives. It has gained our son family, friends, and a wonderful network of support. Honesty is appealing to most people. Our "unique" family structure tends to be impressive to many. In our experience, all have reacted positively to us. Our coming out has given others the chance to know what a gay family with children is really like. Coming out has been both enlightening to us and to those around us.

WE WON... ALLENTOWN'S ANTI-DISCRIMINATION ORDINANCE STAYS!

The city of Allentown has won the appeal in the Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court in support of the Allentown Anti-Discrimination Ordinance. That means the lawsuit to overturn Allentown's Anti-Discrimination Ordinance's inclusion of sexual orientation and gender identity has been unsuccessful. We had lost in the lower court but the higher court found for us in the appeal. The anti-gay side had 30 days to appeal to the State Supreme Court, but they did not do so and the time is up. Thanks go out to the excellent (pro-bono!) work of the city's legal defense team led by Dan Anders of Pepper Hamilton LLP (see page 7 for the rest of the team).

INTERWEAVE EVENTS

A regional Interweave Fall Retreat is set for October 14-16 in Ocean City, Maryland, at the Carousel Hotel on the beach. Last year's event featured drumming, crafts, indoor swimming & ice-skating, group-cooked meals, and spirituality & GLBT themed discussions as well as spectacular views of real life dolphins & rainbows. This year promises similar experiences. Both families & singles welcome. For more info, call 202-882-1874.

Locally, UUCLV's Interweave continues to meet after service on the 3rd Sunday of every month. More casual meetings will be held at local restaurants. The next one is scheduled for 12:30 pm at Nawab, the Indian restaurant in Southside Bethlehem. For more info, email allysondiane@hotmail.com or call UUCLV.

POETRY CIRCLES

Fountainhead Books will host "Poetry Circle Fridays," 7pm @ the store, 641 Penn Ave., West Reading. For more information contact: 610.898.1555, fountainhead@dejazzd.com. Fountainhead is a drop off spot for the Valley Gay Press.

MCCLV CELEBRATES 21

Metropolitan Community Church LV celebrates its 21st year in the Valley on Sunday, October 9. Openly gay Christian singers Jason & deMarco minister at the 10:30am morning service, www.jasonanddemarco.com. Natural Voices of the LV Gay Men's Chorus ministers at the 6:00 pm evening service. Natural Voices quartet includes Gene Hamilton, Terry Drew Karanen, Jim Hummel & Anthony Young.

SCOTT SAYS

By Scott Laubner



COUNTRY MOUSE, CITY MOUSE

Start spreading the news, I'm leaving today. (Well not exactly today.) I want to be a part of it: New York, New York. For a long time I have been fascinated, entranced even, by this city. Three months ago an opportunity presented itself for me to live and work in the city that never sleeps. The retirement community where I work in Bethlehem has a sister community in Manhattan. I heard through the internal gay grapevine that there was an opening and I quickly sent my resume to the New York regional recruiter. After one interview in the Lehigh Valley, I went into New York for a second one. The interview went very, very well. After the interview concluded I took the subway down to Greenwich Village. On Seventh Avenue I saw the actor Willem Dafoe dropping off his dry cleaning and I thought to myself, "I am going to take that as a good omen." Last month they offered me the position and I start in the middle of October. So from now on country mice, this city mouse will be reporting to you all the happenings from the town so nice they named it twice. I'll be in touch!

ALL TOGETHER NOW EVENT

Lutheran Seminary Professor Rev. Dr. Barbara Lundblad will speak on "Blessings and Backlash: Stumbling Towards Wholeness" at an All Together Now event at 3 PM on Sunday November 6 at Wesley Methodist Church at 2540 Center Street in Bethlehem. For more information: bluemountain@entermail.net, 610-398-3074.

MCC HOSTS 10,000 VILLAGES

MCCLV's Helping Hands Ministry will be hosting a 10,000 Villages Craft Fair on Saturday Nov. 5, 10 am - 5 pm and Sunday Nov. 6, 12noon - 5 pm at the church. 10,000 Villages sells reasonably priced crafts made by Third World artisans.

GLBT AL-ANON AT MCCLV

GLBT Al-Anon Meeting at 12 Noon, every Saturday at MCCLV. For information, call Chris: 484-767-3951 or Terry: 610-547-1125. Al-Anon Family Groups are relatives and friends of alcoholics who share their experience, strength and hope in order to solve their common problems.

TEMPLE AM HASKALAH HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICES 5766

at the Jewish Community Center in Allentown: Monday, Oct 3, 6:00 - 7:00 PM: Erev Rosh Hashanah - a short, musical service designed for family worship; Tuesday, Oct 4, 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM: First Day Rosh Hashanah services. Child care provided and children's services during the morning. 1:30 - 2:00 PM: Tashlich, Cedar Beach Park; Wednesday, Oct 5, 9:30 AM-12:30 PM: Second Day Rosh Hashanah services. Child care. Wednesday, Oct 12, 6:00-8:00 PM: Kol Nidre service. Child care; Thursday, Oct 13, 9:30 AM - 2:00 PM: Yom Kippur Services, including Yizkor and Avodah service. Child care & children's services; 5:00 PM - Sundown: Minchah and Ne'ilah, followed by community Kosher breakfast. Child care until break-fast begins. Tickets not required to attend any services. Info: 610-435-3775; www.amhaskalah.org; ritual@amhaskalah.org.



LIZ OUT LOUD

FINISHING THE ART PIECE

We went to see Lily Tomlin at Zoellner and she was great. Some of her top lines:

-- "I see Bethlehem is considering a casino where the Bethlehem Steel used to be... (hissing from the audience)...well yeah, we'll see what happens, but heck if they do put it in, the City's new slogan can be: What Happens in Bethlehem Stays in Bethlehem..."

-- "They were telling me about Lehigh University and it seems that it's been 33 years since the last all male class graduated ... and I also hear that Lehigh is supposed to be the number 3 party school in the country...apparently the novelty of becoming coed still hasn't worn off."

-- (As Trudy the Bag Lady) "People see my shopping cart full of stuff I got out of the garbage and they think I'm crazy for collecting it all...but hey, what about the people who bought this stuff in the first place?"

-- "I worry about things...yeah, I really do... I worry about George Bush saying he feels good about the government response to the Katrina Disaster... I used to worry about all the lies Bush has told us...who would have ever thought the most frightening thing he'd say would actually be the truth?"

-- "It turns out that 94% of the genes in Chimpanzees and humans are about the same...it turns out the only real difference between us is... that we know this and Chimps don't."

-- One of her classic lines: "The other day I bought a waste basket and carried it home in a paper bag. And when I got home, I took the waste basket out of the bag...and put the bag in the waste basket."

-- "Let's take an audience survey ... raise your hand...how many of you think your parents never really understood you? OK, now...how many of you think your life would have been far more complicated if your parents HAD understood you?"



-- "I'm worried about same-sex marriage, I mean, if I and all the other homosexuals really begin to take on the characteristics of heterosexuals...it will be a terrible slippery-slope..."

TRISH'S COLUMN

Lily's show was 100 minutes, and we wished it would have gone on and on.

When we first got to the lobby, there were these cards that people could write questions on. At the end of the show, instead of an encore, Lily would read off about ten questions on stage and would respond with hilarious answers. Of course I wrote one, it said, "How long did it take to grow your hair back after the Genuine Faux Crystal Pendant give away?"

See about ten years ago Lily did this very funny promotion to get people to buy sets of her videos...if you got a set she would send you this necklace with this little plastic pendant that had three of her hairs in it. So, of course we got one and I was wearing it to the show. Lily answered my question on stage. And she told the whole story about the Genuine Faux Crystal Pendant. She explained that it was really hard to make the pendants because the hair burnt up in the hot plastic, so it turned out they could only make a few of them. She said the whole thing was an art piece...not just the pendant, but the promotion and the certificate of authenticity and everything.

Anyway, later after the show, we came back to Zoellner and we saw about 5 "fans" standing at the entrance of the garage where a big limo was waiting. So we waited there too and Lily came out!!!! And she was great... we were pretty flabbergasted and she laughed out loud that I had the pendant and then said it was a collector's item. See picture.

A tiny number of the people (maybe just one) at the show were critical of Lily when she suggested that Bush may not have been a paragon of leadership during Katrina. Did they think an edgy lesbian comic from the sixties would let W off the hook? Thank the stars for Lily Tomlin, and her ability to remind us what intelligent life in the universe really means. It's you, Lily, it's you.



ALLENTOWN HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION 2005 AWARD WINNERS

INDIVIDUALS - Salisa Lynn Berrien, Creator of STRIVE, Students Striving Together for Excellence; Dianne Kareha, Pastor, chaplain at Luther Crest, and volunteer with numerous organizations; Alan Jennings, Executive director of the Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley. Larry Williams, Executive director of the Municipal Opera Company.

Groups - Allentown Human Relations Ordinance Legal Defense Team: Led by Dan Anders of Pepper Hamilton LLP and including Christopher J. Huber, Michelle Marx, Thomas B. Schmidt III and Nathan D. Stump of Pepper Hamilton; Malcolm Gross and John Gross of Gross, McGinley, Lebar & Eaton, LLP; Edward M. Posner, Viktoriya Meyerov and Mary Catherine Roper of Drinker, Biddle, & Reath LLP; Stacey Sobel and Cynthia Schneider of the Center for Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights; Elisabeth Shuster and Margaret D. Blough of the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission; Lawrence E. Frankle of the American Civil Liberties Union of PA; Craig Dietz and Steven Dade, Office of City Solicitor City of Harrisburg; Robert Brown, Patricia Siemionowski and Francis Burianek of the City of Allentown; and the Honorable Edward N. Cahn of Blank Rome LLP. This talented legal team worked for years, at no cost, to defend successfully Allentown City's anti-discrimination ordinance.

The Bullying Prevention Program Team: Marci Ronald, Sarah Kersh, Freda Rafes of the Crime Victims Council; Gretchen Saul of the Allentown School District; and Sarah Niebler, Lehigh University Community Fellow at the Muhlenberg College Polling Institute. This team designed and implemented the Crime Victims Council's Bullying Prevention Program in

Allentown School District high schools, which works to deter bullying and violence and encourages empathy, respect and diversity understanding, through educational presentations. Part of the program includes a comprehensive survey of student's experiences and attitudes to better address school system needs. This may be the only high school Bullying Prevention Program in the nation that works school-wide to reach all students.

Organization - Theatre Outlet: For more than 15 years the Theatre Outlet has been a home of cultural diversity fully representative of the rich ethnic, generational, racial and cultural class experience of and for the people of the city of Allentown. Emerging artists have worked alongside veterans in an ensemble driven collaborative process which has provided opportunities for the entire community including a continually growing base for Latino, Asian, African American and gay and lesbian artists. Theatre Outlet's past productions have told the stories and enhanced the lives of a broadly diverse population.

Special Recognition of Service will be presented posthumously to Claire Elyse Michaels, Commissioner beloved friend, colleague, mentor, advocate, and chaplain.

The AHRC awards banquet will be on Tuesday evening October 18, 5:30 pm at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Allentown. For ticket information: Gwyn Parker - 610-882-7028; or Nicholas Butterfield - 610-437-7616.

POP QUIZ

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National Coming Out Day is October 11!
Approximately what year did these famous GLBT people come out?

1. Leonardo Da Vinci
A. 1476 B. 1590 C. 1640 D. 1776
2. Alexander Hamilton
A. 1630 B. 1729 C. 1779 D. 1831
3. David and Jonathan
A. 3000 BC B. 1500 BC C. 100 BC D. 1000 AD
4. Florence Nightingale
A. 1790 B. 1840 C. 1905 D. 1940
5. Susan B. Anthony
A. 1780 B. 1815 C. 1850 D. 1914
6. Frederick the Great of Prussia
A. 1730 B. 1790 C. 1825 D. 1880
7. Sappho
A. 3000 BC B. 1800 BC C. 1000 BC D. 600 BC
8. T.S. Lawrence (Lawrence of Arabia)
A. 1810 B. 1860 C. 1910 D. 1940
9. Rita Mae Brown
A. 1941 B. 1965 C. 1980 D. 1998
10. Ellen DeGeneres (on TV)
A. 1992 B. 1994 C. 1996 D. 1998

We believe it would improve the quality of life in the Lehigh Valley if all people were equally protected from unfair discrimination based upon actual or perceived: race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry or place of birth, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, family status, age, disability or use of a guide animal, in the areas of employment, housing, and public accommodation.

PA Diversity Network

GLBT Infoline

PA-GALA

Valley Gay Press

Allentown Human Relations Commission

Safe-Space of Lehigh University

PFLAG Lehigh Valley

ACCO - A Chorus Celebrating Women

GLORA

Pride of the GLV

LV Gay Men's Chorus

NCC GLBT Student Union

The Lehigh Valley Labor Party

EQUAL! at Agere

Metropolitan Community Church LV

OutThere - Cedar Crest

9th Street Shelter Allentown

LV Community Action Committee

GLEE at Air Products

FACT

AIDS Outreach

The Unitarian Universalist Church LV

GLOSS

LEPOCO

GLISN of Dun & Bradstreet

AIDS Services Center

Theatre Outlet

Integrity - Bethlehem

The Lehigh Valley Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

Civic Theater 19th Street Theatre

The Latin Alliance

The Enigma Players

New Covenant Family Ministries

Properties of Merit

Allentown City Democratic Committee

Episcopal Diocese of Bethlehem

Puerto Rican Cultural Alliance

Turning Point of the Lehigh Valley

Muhlenberg Theater Association

Crime Victims Council of the Lehigh Valley

Touchstone Theater

Congregation Am Haskalah

To add your organization to this list, Contact VGP

QUOTE #1

"My only regret about being gay is that I repressed it so long. I surrendered my youth to the people I feared when I could have been out there loving someone. Don't make that mistake yourself. Life's too damn short."

-- Quote by Armistead Maupin, (author of 'Tales of the City,') that appears on Starbucks Coffee cups. The Christian right has called for a boycott of Starbucks.

QUOTE #2

"...I especially like how, the day after the hurricane, instead of flying to Louisiana, you flew to San Diego to party with your business peeps. Don't let people criticize you for this -- after all, the hurricane was over and what the heck could you do, put your finger in the dike!"

--Michael Moore in an open letter to George W. Bush

QUOTE #3

"...I don't think anyone anticipated the breach of the levees," George W. Bush told Diane Sawyer when he finally arrived in New Orleans.

...In June 2004, Walter Maestri, emergency management chief for Jefferson Parish, fretted to The Times-Picayune in New Orleans: "It appears that the money has been moved in the president's budget to handle homeland security and the war in Iraq, and I suppose that's the price we pay. Nobody locally is happy that the levees can't be finished, and we are doing everything we can to make the case that this is a security issue for us."

-- from a New York Times Editorial by Maureen Dowd

QUOTE #4

"...Gay marriage has begun, and life has not changed for the citizens of the commonwealth, with the exception of those who can now marry, this (anti-same-sex marriage Massachusetts Constitutional) amendment which was an appropriate measure or compromise a year ago, is no longer, I feel, a compromise today." -- State Senator Brian Lees, a Republican who had been a co-sponsor of the amendment, acknowledging that the effort to mount a Massachusetts State Constitutional Amendment has been defeated in the State Senate because many who were for it have now reversed their votes. The vote was 157-39 against the anti-gay Amendment.

Distelfink by Ruby Zebu 10/05

*A True News Item...

VGP Reporter Dis the Cat here...covering gay animals in the news. This just in:

The swan couple known as Romeo and Juliet at the Boston Public Gardens has finally been able to come out publicly as same-sex partners.*

Juliet told this reporter:

'We thought everyone knew,' Rosmerta added:

'Gee, anyone could tell we're a lesbian couple...

We always wear the same outfit.'



The editorial columns and political cartoon that appear in Valley Gay Press express the opinions of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or attitude of this publication. VGP makes no indication of the sexual orientation of persons, organizations, or businesses mentioned in any issue.

RACHEL THOMPSON ART SHOW

Rachel Thompson, local human rights activist, writer and artist, is having a solo art show, October 2 through 31 at the Quadrant bookstore and cafe at 20 North Third Street, Easton, just off Center Square. The show is, in part, a retrospective of Rachel's watercolors of the last 20 years, featuring her personal favorites along with her newest work. The first \$200 of the proceeds will be donated to HAVEN by the artist. There will be a reception, Sunday October 9, 2 to 4 PM. Light refreshments will be served. Rachel Thompson says of the fun and eclectic bookstore / cafe, "If you love books, great food and art, the Quadrant is a great place to visit." Contact the Quadrant at 610-252-1188. Rachel's Email is Rachelpaints@aol.com.

SUPPORT FOR MINIMUM WAGE

Metropolitan Community Church announces its endorsement of the "Lehigh Valley Campaign to Raise the Minimum Wage." The campaign is sponsored by 2nd Harvest Food Bank & Community Action Committee of the LV. In endorsing this campaign, MCCLV "believes the minimum wage should be increased in Pennsylvania to \$7 an hour with cost of living adjustment." The Valley Gay Press and PA Diversity Network also support this campaign.